assistance for this project and similar other six projects. The State Government have been advised accordingly.

States who have delegated powers to Panchayati Raj Institutions

2550. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of States who have not delegated powers to Panchayati Raj Institutions till date; and

(b) the details of steps taken to ensure transparency in the functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) The States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Jharkhand, and Goa, and the Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh and Pondicherry have not yet transferred any functions upon Panchayats.

(b) The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been requested to adopt the following four-point strategy to enhance transparency in the functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions:—

(i) creating awareness through the print and electronic media and organising training/workshops for elected representatives and functionaries of Panchayats;

(ii) promoting participation of the village community in the preparation of Need Based Action Plans, its execution and monitoring;

(iii) displaying all the relevant information relating to works taken up by the Panchayats on a bill-board including estimates, availability of funds and expenditure; and

(iv) ensuring Social Audit by the Gram Sabha.